

An **Appendix** including Replacement Sheets 1-5 is attached following page of this paper.

Amendments To The Specification:

On page 3, please replace paragraph [0006] with the following amended paragraph:

[0006] According to a first aspect, a data transfer device is disclosed for writing data to and reading data from a disk drive system through a plurality of ports of the data transfer device. The data transfer device includes a first buffer for serially receiving, from a host system, control portions of data read transfers and data write transfers; a second buffer for serially receiving, from the host system, data portions of data write transfers received by the first register; and N temporary storage devices, wherein N is a positive integer greater than 1, coupled to the first register and the second register, the N temporary storage devices for parallelly receiving and temporarily storing consecutive control portions of the data read transfers and data write transfers from the first register. Up to N of the data read transfers and data write transfers are transferred to the disk drive system through the plurality of ports simultaneously.